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The Hacker Files

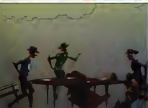


SHOWDOWN 1.0

BY SHINER, SUTTON & BUCKINGHAM



A hot day at the Good dust saloon.
Everybody's HERE: Earp, Holliday,
Cole Younger, Bill Dalton.







YEAH

WELL YOU KNOW YOU'VE
CONVINCED ME THAT WHATEVER
DIS-TRONEX IS UP TO IS MORE
IMPORTANT THAN A
LOST JOB OR TWO.

I'VE BEEN
LOOKING INTO THAT
HOW'D YOU AGREE ME
ABOUT ACCEPTING



YOU FOUND
SOMETHING

YEAH.

I'VE FOUND THEM IN A LOCKED FILING
CABINET. IMPRINTS, CHECK STAMPS,
MEMOS. ALL CODED 'RUSGIA'.



THERE WASN'T ANYTHING
ON ANY OF THE COMPUTERS YOU
ALREADY KNOW THAT SO I BROKE
OUT-CLIFFE'S OFFICE.



THEY POINTED
TO SOME PLACE CALLED
TYNORSTAKE IN KADASH
STAN.

YOU
MEAN AS IN
RUSGIA?



YEAH

RUSGIA

TYNORSTAKE
IS WHERE THE BOMBS
WERE USED TO HAVE THEIR CAMP
CAMPBELL.

"THERE ARE CARAVANS OF TRUCKS AND MONEY AND COMPUTER EQUIPMENT FLOWING OUT OF WESTERN CHINA AND ACROSS THE BORDER INTO RUSSIA."

"THE STUFF IS COMING OUT OF FACTORIES LIKE THE ONE WE SAW IN SHANGHAI."



"PARALLEL FIBER CABLES, FIBER OPTIC CABLES, SOME KIND OF EXPERIMENTAL FIBER OPTIC BUS."



"YOU KNOW WHAT THAT ADDS UP TO?"

"NO
HEAD GUY
IT."



"NOT
THERE
MILL."



"CHINA
IS BUILDING A
MASSIVE
ARTIFICIAL IN-
TELLIGENCE"



DO I
REALLY WANT TO
EAT TACOS IN NORTH
CAROLINA?

IT'S
TRADITION
MAN.

MUSIC WORLD

LUNCHEON

BUD'S

OPEN

SALE!

THIS HAS TO DO WITH WHAT
YOUR PAL LINDY FOUND IN CARMA
CRISTOFANI BOOKS RECORDING THE
PEOPLE SOUND THEM.

LET'S SAY YOU JUST RECORDED ALL
THAT GUFF -- DATA SOUNDS WIDE O'
LET'S SAY YOU ONLY TURNED ON
FOR CERTAIN KEYWORDS.

YOU'RE STILL
TALKING ABOUT AN
AMBIGUOUS AMOUNT
OF DATA.

WHICH IS WHY
THEY HAVE TO HAVE
THE A.I.

NO
THEN WHAT?

THEN WHAT?
ANYTHING YOU WANT INDUSTRIAL
ESPIONAGE BLACK
MAIL.

WORLD
DOMINATION.



TOW

THAT HAS TO BE WHAT
THEY'RE USING-THE MARCH FOR,
TO ABOLISH ALL THE INDEPEND-
ENT SYSTEMS INTO ONE A

THE MARCH
THAT YOU
WROTE.



I BUILT
A BOMB INTO IT
WHICH NOW POUNDS
FOR THEM.

YEAH,
YEAH, OKAY.



NOW I CAN'T
LIVE WITH IT THAT THEY'RE
DOING THIS WITH MY OPER-
ATING SYSTEM.

THAT
THEY'RE GOING
TO PUT
IT



PROBABLY
THINK YOU COULD
BOMB A WEEK OF
SCHOOL?



THEY'RE
COMPUTERIZED

DUDE, THEY
DON'T EVEN KNOW
I WAS GONE



THEN HERE'S
THE PLAN...

F.I.E. HEADQUARTERS, LONDON





KAZAKHSTAN

MR. BUTCLIFFE
SAID I WAS SUPPOSED
TO CHECK THIS OUT,
BUT...

AREAK, DID
VIRTUAL REALITY NEVER
HURT ANYBODY NOT
EVEN GUNS IN SUITS
FROM DALLAS

GO AHEAD AND PUT
THE GOGGLES ON, THEN
THE ARCADE! BUT WATCH
OUT FOR THE GREAT AND
POWERFUL ARCTIC



BALTY

JUST OUR
LITTLE JOKE.

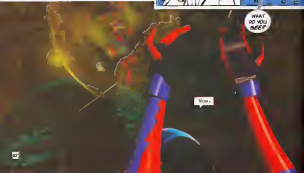
DEAR, YOU'RE NOW
ON A KIND OF TREAD-
MILL. WE'VE MONITORED
YOUR MOVEMENTS.



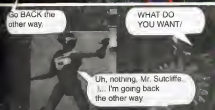
THE HELMET
FEEDS YOU PICTURES
TO MATCH THE MOVEMENTS
OF YOUR HEAD
HANDS AND FEET



WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?



WOW...



LONDON

I WENT
UP WHERE'S THAT
STUPID PHONE
MURDER?

Program malfunction.

DETECTIVE

YOU GUYS
WERE SUPPOSED TO SEND
SOMEBODY TO FIX THIS
COMPUTER!

I'LL CONNECT
YOU WITH THE SORTING
DEPARTMENT

WE KNOW NO
RECORD OF YOUR
CALL...

IT WAS SOME
GUY NAMED MARSHALL
WE TRIED TO

GET GUY
CLARKE ON THE
DOUBLE

I SEE... AND
WHEN DID MARSHALL
TELL YOU HE'D BE
THERE?

OH MAN...



I don't stop thinking about REGGIE.
The way Digbrow is EXPLOITING
a literal HELL on earth.

REMEMBER,
YOU PROMISED NOT
TO WEAR THAT STUPID
HAT.

I'M
COOL.

SORRY TO BARGE IN,
BUT THERE'S SOME HEAVY
TROUBLE COMING DOWN.

I COULDN'T
TELL YOU ON THE
PHONE.

DIGBROW IS BUILDING AN
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE. THEY'RE
GOING TO USE IT TO PROCESS A FEW
MILLION GIGABYTES OF SPYING GOV-
ERNMENT AND INDUSTRIAL SECRETS.

Science finally obtained PRICE
CONTROLS, and the stores have
food and clothes again.

YOU'RE REALLY
NOT A DEAD UP ROSE
BUT ABOUT THOSE
BUTTS, DON'T YOU?

Only now nobody
can AFFORD them.

The FACTORIES are going broke.
No more social services with
the job, just a few inflated
SUBSIDIES, worthless at all. I
PREFER open Warfare to
Kapitalism.



SO TELL
ME ABOUT

I think about TELLING himself
in the old PARTY HQ on Staraya
Ploshchad, with GORBACHEV and his
other associates, trying to
make it work.

Squabbling with the Americans
over who gets the BALTIC FLEET
Arguing with the Brits over
TERRITORY

Fighting the OLD GUARD
every step of the way

I DON'T HAVE TIME
TO GO THROUGH THE ADDRESS
WITH YOU NOW

BUT YOU CAN FOLLOW
ME INSTANT INSTALLATION AND
IF I'M WRONG YOU CAN HEAR ME
OFF TO THE HOUSE OF SLAVY
OR WHATEVER THE HELL IT
IS THAT YOU DO

"Centrals capitalists" set up cardboard
boxes on the street and sell whatever
they can SCROUNGE. Russians are the
hardest CORRUPT going

I BELIEVE YOU
AND OTHERS SEEM
TO TRUST YOU THAT'S
GOOD ENOUGH.

FOR AGONY

Workers who HAVE jobs may
not get paid at all. Then they
grovel to find somebody
willing to take the FOOD
out of their refrigerator

But even they can't buy your
place to LIVE. So when England
is about to throw POLARIS
around, who's going to ABOUT

Meanwhile here I am with a bunch of WEEDS in smart costumes.

SO, DIGTODON GOT THROUGH TO YOU?

DIGTODON? HURRY!

Laughable as they LOOK, all that POWER... it makes me feel like an endangered SPECIES.

I HAVEN'T GOT ANYTHING TO DO WITH THOSE BASTARDS IN YEARS.

OH OH

There again...

YOU WHAT?

DON'T KILL HIM I DON'T THINK THEY THAT WOULD CONVINCE YOU BUT HE'S NOT WORTH EVEN THAT Tiny CHANCE.

PLASTIC MAN HERE PACKED DIGTODON BUT CLIFFE IS DOUBTLESS ON HIS WAY TO KAZAKHSTAN.

THAT'S, OH

ELIMINATED HIM

ACTUALLY

THAT IMPEDS ANY CHANCE OF US GETTING IN AND OUT OF THERE QUIETLY.

SOT





KAZAKHSTAN







LOOK, FLASH HAS BEEN
GONE AWAY TOO LONG. HE SHOULD
HAVE BEEN OUT OF THERE ALMOST
BEFORE HE WENT IN.



I THINK WE'RE
IN TROUBLE!

I KNOW
IT. I KNOW
IT.



YOU'VE GOT
TO GET ME IN
THERE.

HOW?



I DON'T THINK
ANYMORE IS A FACTOR
AT THIS POINT. GET ME
A JET OR A HELICOPTER
OR WHATEVER YOU CAN.



I'LL
SEE WHAT I
CAN DO.

AND IN A HURRY,
PLEASE! BEFORE THIS
FLASHY CHARACTER OF
YOURS SCAVENS ANYTHING
ELSE UP?





TO BE
CONCLUDED



#ood on newnet
<http://ood.conforums.com>